

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 IO-10 /065 W

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R 111728Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1376

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, TGEN, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: FRG DEBATE ON SUPPORTING EXPANDED EC  
RESEARCH PROGRAM

REF: BONN 10396

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING AN EXTENSIVE CABINET-LEVEL  
DEBATE INVOLVING SINCERITY OF ITS COMMITMENT TO  
EUROPEAN INTEGRATION PROCESS, FRG HAS AGREED ON  
GUIDELINES FOR JULY 15 EC COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS OF  
R & D PROGRAMS. FRG WILL MAKE ITS SUPPORT FOR  
ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS CONDITIONAL UPON COMMITMENT BY  
COMMISSION TO DRAW-UP A MULTI-YEAR R AND D PROGRAM.  
FURTHERMORE, FRG BELIEVES THAT ADDITIONAL  
FUNDS SHOULD BE PROVIDED ONLY IN REGULAR 1976

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BUDGET, INSTEAD OF 1975 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET.

END SUMMARY

2. ON JULY 8 THE FRG CABINET REACHED UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT ON POSITION FRG WILL TAKE ON FUTURE EUROPEAN RESEARCH POLICY AT JULY 15 FORNMIN COUNCIL. DETAILS OF CABINET DECISION HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED, BUT ON JULY 9 MINISTER FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY MATTHOEFER INDICATED IN PRESS BRIEFING THAT FRG WILL LINK ITS DEMAND THAT EC COMMISSION DRAW UP A PROGRAM PLAN BY OCTOBER, AND A MULTI-YEAR R AND D PROGRAM BY SPRING 1976, TO FRG AGREEMENT TO EXPAND BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY RESEARCH PROGRAMS. MATTHOEFER ALSO NOTED THAT FRG WILL ONLY SUPPORT INCREASED FUNDING FOR RESEARCH PERSONNEL AND MATERIAL IN REGULAR 1976 BUDGET, AND WILL OPPOSE SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1975.

3. THIS CABINET DECISION BRINGS TO A CLOSE, AT LEAST TEMPORARILY, A DEBATE ON GERMANY'S COMMITMENT TO EUROPEAN INTEGRATION WHICH HAS OCCUPIED BONN SINCE JUNE 25 (SEE PARA 3 REFTEL). THE TWO COALITION PARTNERS WERE CLEARLY DIVIDED ON THIS ISSUE. UNTIL THE JULY 8 CABINET SESSION, THE FDP HEADED BY GENSCHER OPPOSED THE DEMANDS OF MATTHOEFER AND OTHER SPD MINISTERS THAT PRE-CONDITIONS BE SET FOR GERMAN SUPPORT OF EXPANDED RESEARCH PROGRAMS. COUNT LAMBSDORFF, THE ECONOMIC SPOKESMAN OF THE FDP BUNDESTAG GROUP, ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF PUTTING A BRAKE ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION SOLELY FOR FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW, LAMBSDORFF ALSO EVEN WENT SO FAR AS TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT BY RETARDING THE MOMENTUM OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION, THE GERMANS THEMSELVES CALLED INTO QUESTION ONE OF THE PRIMARY BASES OF THEIR EASTERN POLICY.

4. IN THIS DEBATE, BOELLING, THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN, COUNTERED BY DECLARING THAT THE FRG WAS NOT TURNING AGAINST THE EC RESEARCH PROGRAM. IT ONLY OPPOSED ATTEMPTS TO PUSH THROUGH SUPPLEMENTARY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BUDGETS FOR RESEARCH ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS, WITHOUT RELATING INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS TO CONCRETE PLANNING OR LONGER-TERM R AND D GOALS. THE COMPROMISE CABINET DECISION, WHILE BASICALLY A VICTORY FOR THE MAJORITY SPD, SERVED TO HEAL A POSSIBLE BREAK BETWEEN THE COALITION PARTNERS. IT ALSO ENABLES GENSCHER TO GIVE FRG SUPPORT, ALBEIT CAUTIOUS AND CONDITIONAL, FOR AN EXPANDED EC

RESEARCH PROGRAM.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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